

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSCE-00 AGR-20 AID-20 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 CU-04 /177 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:PP/EB

9/7/73 EXT 22538

APPROVED BY EA/P:AHROSEN

----- 040379

R 072233Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

USSAC NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 7 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. WITH LITTLE HARD VN NEWS IN US PRESS, LAT'S MCARTHUR (SEPT. 5) IN SAIGON FINDS RICE SHORTAGE THE NO. 1 TOPIC WITH RETAIL PRICE ALMOST DOUBLED WITHIN PAST 10 DAYS. HOWEVER, SUBJECT IS NOT WITHOUT AN ELEMENT OF PLEASURE TO MANY S.VIETNAMESE, SINCE THIEU IS ATTEMPTING TO WRENCH THE RICE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FROM CHINESE TRADERS WHO HAVE CONTROLLED IT FOR GENERATIONS. SHORTAGE ATTRIBUTED PARTIALLY TO PURCHASES BY COMMUNIST TROOPS, WHO, BEFORE C-F, WERE SUPPLIED BY NVN SOURCES, AND TO FARMERS, RICE MILLERS AS WELL AS CHINESE HOLDING BACK ON SALES AND AWAITING BETTER PRICES, AND TO CUTBACK IN FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM. MEANWHILE, VIETNAMESE ARE THINKING THE UNTHINKABLE. SAYS THE PROSPECT OF HAVING TO MIX THEIR ALMOST SACRED RICE WITH OTHER IMPORTED GRAIN IS THE KIND OF RICE CRISIS GVN WISHES TO AVOID AT ALMOST ANY COST.

2. SVN DEVALUES PIASTER FIFTH TIME THIS YEAR, FROM 500 TO 510 TO US \$1. BANKING SOURCES SAY MOVE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE COMPETITIVENESS OF EXPORTS (REUTER).

3. SVN SPOKESMAN SAID LEVEL OF FIGHTING HAS RISEN FOR 2ND DAY IN SUCCESSION. 119 COMMUNIST ATTACKS, HIGHEST IN MONTH, ON SEPT. 6 LEFT 150 CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES (REUTER).

4. SVN OFFICIALS WARN NEWSMEN THAT WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE WILL STOP IF ANY EXCHANGE OF MATERIALS BETWEEN REPORTERS AND VC. MILITARY SPOKESMAN SAID IN THE PAST THERE HAS BEEN EXCHANGE OF BOOKS AND MAGAZINES FOR PARCELS. OBSERVERS SAID THAT WARNING SPRANG FROM SVN FEARS THAT FILM OF COMMUNIST TROOPS UNCLASSIFIED

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TAKEN IN VC ZONE WAS GIVEN TO CORRESPONDENTS (REUTER).

5. VOLZ (NYDN) REPORTS SEN. HUGHES' CHARGES THAT PRES. MIGHT HAVE DECEIVED PUBLIC WHEN HE SAID IN JULY 1970 THAT US DOES NOT INTEND GIVE DIRECT MILITARY SUPPORT TO CAMBODIA. A PERSISTENT CRITIC OF ADMINISTRATION INDOCHINA POLICY, HUGHES SAYS GEN. ABRAMS CONFIRMED THAT US AIRCRAFT HAD STRUCK DEEP IN CAMBODIA, CONTRADICTING GEN. WHEELER'S STATEMENT THAT BOMBING WAS LIMITED TO WITHIN 30 MI. OF SVN BORDER. HUGHES ALSO QUOTES ABRAMS THAT TACAIR REPORTING FALSIFIED IN 1970 TO COVER UP RAIDS (ALSO UPI, CHITRIB; CSM).

6. KI LAUNCH OFFENSIVE, OVERRUN S. HALF OF KOMPONG

CHAM (WP; UPI, NYDN; AP, CHITRIB, SUN; CSM; PHINQ).  
WILLIAMS (REUTER) REPORTS CITY ON VERGE OF FALLING  
AFTER NIGHT OF BITTER BATTLES. REBELS CONTROL ELECTRICITY  
AND WATER SUPPLY, FANK HOLDS 3 MAIN ENCLAVES: AIRPORT,  
GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE AND PROVINCIAL MILITARY HQ.  
MAIN HOSPITAL FELL BUT NOT KNOWN IF PATIENTS EVACUATED  
IN TIME. SITUATION CONFUSED WITH SOME FANK UNITS  
STILL IN S. HALF OF CITY, DAMAGE HEAVY BUT NO CASUALTY  
FIGURES AVAILABLE, HUNDREDS OF CIVILIANS TRYING  
TO FLEE, PART OF USAF-PARADROPPED SUPPLIES FALLS INTO  
ENEMY HANDS. GKR ADMITS SITUATION "VERY GRAVE"  
AND PLANS COUNTER-ATTACKS WHILE KHMER NAVY SHELLS  
GUERRILLA POSITIONS AND TRIES TO BRING IN REINFORCEMENTS.  
KI ROCKET POCHENTONG TO INTERFERE WITH KAF SUPPORT  
FOR KOMPONG CHAM BUT NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES REPORTED.  
MILITARY SOURCES BELIEVE KI WANT TO CAPTURE KOMPONG  
CHAM BEFORE END OF ALGIERS NAC AND MAY WANT TO MAKE  
IT RIVAL CAPITAL. WP AND NYDN (UPI) SAY INTELLIGENCE  
REPORTS INDICATE KI WAS RUNNING SHORT OF AMMO FOR  
CAPTURED ARTILLERY UNTIL USAF MISTAKENLY DROPPED  
THEM "GIFT" OF ROUNDS MEANT FOR FANK; USAF RESUPPLY  
AND RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS CONTINUE IN UNARMED  
AIRCRAFT. BROWNE (NYT) REPORTS SITUATION AT KOMPONG

CHAM GROWING MORE SERIOUS BY THE HOUR AS EMERGENCY  
HELILIFT CAN NO LONGER LAND AT GOVERNOR'S HQ, AND  
UNCLASSIFIED

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SIHANOUK AT NAC SAYS HIS FORCES WILL SOON CAPTURE  
KOMPONG CHAM.

7. REBEL TROOPS CUT ROUTE 5 TO BATTAMBANG 36 MI.  
NW OF PP; ROUTE 4 TO KOMPONG SOM CLOSED FOR 12TH  
DAY (BROWNE, NYT; WP; UPI, NYDN; AP, CHITRIB, SUN;  
PHINQ).

8. SIHANOUK DENOUNCES US AT NAC. IN 45-MINUTE  
SPEECH HE SAYS PRES. DEFYING US CONGRESS AND THREATENS  
RESUME BOMBING IF PP ATTACKED BY KI; ALLEGES US  
MILITARY ADVISORS OPERATING IN CAMBODIA AND TRAINING  
FANK, AND THAT 20,000 SVN AND 10,000 THAI MERCENARIES  
SENT IN TO CONTINUE US POLICY OF INTERFERENCE IN  
CAMBODIAN AFFAIRS. REAFFIRMS NO COMPROMISE WITH  
LON NOL REGIME (UPI, NYDN; CSM).

9. AP SUVA (LAT, SEPT. 6), WITH DOORWAY PHOTO OF  
SKIFF AND BECKER, DESCRIBES TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS  
OF OPERATING US EMBASSY IN FIJI WITH 3 AMERICANS  
AND 3 LOCALS.

KOREA/JAPAN

10. INTENSIFYING THEIR PUBLIC ALLEGATIONS THAT ROK OFFICIALS ABDUCTED KIM DAE JUNG, JAPANESE POLICE SPOKESMEN NAME AN YUN KYUNG, SK CONSULAR OFFICIAL IN KOBE, AS INVOLVED IN CASE (WP'S OBERDORFER, NYT'S HALLORAN, IN TOKYO), AND SAY THEY ARE INVESTIGATING SEVERAL ADDITIONAL KOREANS RESIDENT IN JAPAN. HALLORAN SAYS GOJ'S REQUEST THAT SK EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY KIM DONG WOON BE RETURNED TO TOKYO FOR QUESTIONING -- "STRIKING IN THAT FOREIGN DIPLOMATS ARE USUALLY EXEMPT FROM SUCH INTERROGATION, BOTH BY DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY AND BY PRACTICE" -- REFLECTS RISING ANTI-KOREA SENTIMENT IN TOKYO. CITY'S THURSDAY NEWSPAPERS CARRIED PAGES OF REPORTS ON KIM DAE JUNG AFFAIR, "EXAMINING EVERY SPECK OF INFORMATION WITH GREAT DETAIL."

11. OBERDORFER (IN PHINQ COLUMN), NOTING REPORTS UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT "QUESTION OF WHAT TO DO NOW" IS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY PARK, SUGGESTS THAT "IF HE SEEKS TO CONTINUE AN UNCOMPROMISING STAND DESPITE MOUNTING EVIDENCE THAT HIS GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIALS AND OPERATIVES DID

THE KIDNAP JOB, A VERY STRONG JAPANESE REACTION SEEMS UNAVOIDABLE." US HAS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN FOR KIM DAE JUNG'S SAFETY, LAT'S JAMESON (IN TOKYO) OBSERVES; PRIVATELY, US ALSO IS CONCERNED THAT CASE MAY HURT SK'S POSITION IN UNGA.

12. IN REPORT TO WALDHEIM, UNCURK RECOMMENDS ITS OWN LIQUIDATION (NYT'S TELTSCH, CSM'S WINDER). TELTSCH SEES NK BOYCOTT OF COMMISSION, SINO-SOVIET OPPOSITION AND START OF DIRECT NORTH-SOUTH KOREAN TALKS MAKING RECOMMENDATION INEVITABLE.

CHINA

13. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES ANNUAL PUBLICATION REPORTS PRC IS DEVELOPING INTER-CONTINENTAL NUCLEAR MISSILE THAT COULD HIT MOST MAJOR TARGETS IN US (CSM; REUTER, SUN; CHITRIB, VEYSEY).

14. JUSTICE DOUGLAS SAYS HIS 3-WEEK PRC VISIT CONVINCED HIM THAT SINO-US EXCHANGE VISITS OF LEGAL EXPERTS ARE NOT FAR OFF (UPI, NYDN).

15. MANY PRC LEADERS, INCLUDING CHOU AND WANG HUNG-WEN, APPEARED IN PUBLIC THURSDAY TO WATCH FINAL MATCHES OF AFRICAN-ASIAN-LATIN AMERICAN TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT. ALL POLITBURO STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ATTENDED EXCEPT MAO AND AILING KANG SHENG (REUTER, NYT).

16. RECENT PRC REPORTS THAT NORTHERN BORDER TROOPS ARE PREPARING FOR POSSIBLE SUDDEN SOVIET ATTACK MOVE RUSSIA TO ANGRY REACTION. TASS CHARGES THAT PEKING LEADERSHIP, BY INSPIRING HATREDS FOR SOVIET UNCLASSIFIED

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AMONG CHINESE MASSES, IS ATTEMPTING DISTRACT THEM FROM CHINA'S INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES AND JUSTIFY ARMS RACE EXPENSE (REUTER).

MONGOLIA

17. MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC CHARGES PRC WITH BORDER VIOLATIONS AND SUBVERSION. AS REPORTED IN ULAN BATOR NEWSPAPER, CHINESE HAVE CONDUCTED MORE THAN 150 MILITARY EXERCISES CLOSE TO BORDER WITH MONGOLIA IN PAST 3 YEARS, SOMETIMES PENETRATING MONGOLIAN TERRITORY MUCH AS 10 MILES. PAPER ALSO ACCUSES PRC EMBASSY IN MONGOLIA OF ATTEMPTING ENLIST AGENTS FOR HOSTILE ACTIVITIES FROM AMONG 7,000 CHINESE CITIZENS IN ULAN BATOR (WP).

SINGAPORE

18. SINGAPORE IS LOSING UP TO 20 OF ALL STUDENTS IT SENDS TO AUSTRALIA FOR UNIVERSITY TRAINING, SAYS CSM'S MACLEOD (IN SINGAPORE), AND PM LEE FOUND STATISTIC SERIOUS ENOUGH TO USE RECENT OTTAWA COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE AS FORUM TO ACCUSE CANBERRA OF FOSTERING "BRAIN DRAIN." WHITLAM REJECTED CHARGE. IRONICALLY, AUSTRALIA MODIFIED LAWS TO COUNTER ASIAN CHARGES OF "WHITES ONLY" IMMIGRATION POLICIES AND PERMITS ENTRY OF SKILLED ASIAN GRADUATES; NOW, SINGAPORE LEADERS COMPLAIN THAT AUSSIE LAWS ARE STILL DISCRIMINATORY BECAUSE THEY FAVOR THE EDUCATED AND TEND TO EXCLUDE ALL BUT HANDFUL OF UNSKILLED ASIANS SEEKING ENTRY.

ADB

19. ADB'S NEW US EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REX BEACH, IN INTERVIEW WITH LAT'S ANDERSON (SEPT. 6), SAYS AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TRYING TO SELL WARES IN ASIA HAVE BEEN HAMPERED BY LACK OF US CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR BANK; ADDS ALSO THAT HE AND NIXON ADMIN "HAVEN'T DONE OUR HOMEWORK" TO SHOW POTENTIAL BENEFIT US BUSINESS CAN DERIVE FROM SUPPORTING BANK. BEACH NOTES JAPAN HAS SUPPLIED ABOUT 56 OF GOODS PURCHASED UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH MONEY LOANED BY BANK, WHILE US HAS SUPPLIED ONLY 9, AND SAYS HE IS WORRIED THAT JAPAN WILL COME TO DOMINATE BANK.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

20. CSM PUBLISHES LENGTHIER VERSION OF JOHN BURNS ARTICLE ABOUT NPC WHICH APPEARED IN SEPT. 6 NYT. IN CSM VERSION, BURNS SAYS IT'S AN "OPEN SECRET" THAT LI TEH-SHENG WILL BECOME PLA CHIEF OF STAFF. ANTICIPATES MUCH NPC ATTENTION TO BE FOCUSED ON CURRENT FIVE-YEAR PLAN, FEW DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN RELEASED. PLAN EXPECTED TO EMPHASIZE MECHANIZATION OF AGRICULTURE, STRENGTHENING OF SECONDARY INDUSTRIES SUCH AS FERTILIZER AND PETROCHEMICAL, AND IMPORTANCE OF DECENTRALIZING INDUSTRIES SERVING AGRICULTURE. WITH PARTY AND GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES LEGITIMIZED ONCE AGAIN, BURNS EXPECTS NEW SPECULATION ON WHETHER CHOU WILL MAKE FOREIGN TOUR. SAYS UNCONFIRMED REPORTS HAVE CHOU VISITING UNGA THIS FALL, BUT DIPLOMATS DOUBT CHOU IS READY TO SET FOOT IN US.

21. S-N'S BRADSHER (SEPT. 6) IN HONG KONG SEES IN NEW CCP LINE-UP, WHEREIN 20 GPCR PURGEES WERE INCLUDED AND RADICALS CHIANG CHING AND YAO WEN-YUAN SLIPPED IN PARTY RANKING, INDICATIONS OF CHOU'S POLITICAL STRENGTH. REVIEWING RADICAL ATTACKS ON CHOU POLICIES AND PRACTICES, SAYS FACT THAT RADICALS STILL FIGHT AGAINST CHOU'S ESTABLISHMENT INDICATES MAO'S BACKING FOR ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO OVERCOME WHAT HE SEES AS DEVIATION FROM TRUE CHINESE COMMUNISM. CONJECTURES THAT NEXT ROUND OF FIGHT COULD COME AT NPC; BUT SINCE RADICAL STRENGTH IS BASED IN CP APPARATUS AND ON MAO'S PRESTIGE AS PARTY CHAIRMAN, BRADSHER SAYS THE RADICAL CHALLENGE MAY NOT BE VERY STRONG, AND CHOU MIGHT EVEN RESTORE MORE PURGE VICTIMS AND GIVE NEW ADMINISTRATIVE JOBS TO THOSE REHABILITATED IN PARTY.

22. CSM (SEPT. 6) APPLAUDS TOKEN US MILITARY WITHDRAWALS FROM THAILAND AND TAIWAN AS WELL-TIMED UNCLASSIFIED

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IN CONTEXT OF "BRISTLY" SINO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS. SAYS WITHDRAWALS WILL NOT AFFECT OVERALL US MILITARY CAPABILITY IN AREA, DO NOT REPRESENT ABANDONMENT OF OLD FRIENDS, AND REFLECT A CAREFULLY CALIBRATED ACT OF FULFILLMENT OF WHAT THE PRES. PROMISED THE PRC; A REMINDER TO USSR THAT WASHINGTON IS JUST AS INTERESTED IN KEEPING UP ITS NEW-FOUND GOOD RELATIONS WITH PEKING AS IT IS IN ITS "DETENTE" WITH

MOSCOW.

23. CSM'S PEAGAM IN VIENTIANE REGARDS UK DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF NVN SEPT. 1 - TO BE FOLLOWED BY EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS AROUND FIRST OF THE YEAR - AS INEVITABLE. MOVE DOES NOT IMPLY CHANGE IN HOSTILE ATTITUDE TOWARD DRV WHICH IS DEEPLY ENTRENCHED AT SENIOR LEVEL IN UK FONOFF, UNDISTURBED BY SUCCESSIVE LABOUR AND CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENTS WHO VALUED SMOOTH RELATIONS WITH US FAR HIGHER THAN A "REALISTIC" APPRAISAL OF THE INDOCHINA SITUATION. EXPECTS FEW CONCRETE RESULTS FROM NORMALIZATION IN SHORT-TERM, ALTHOUGH LOW-LEVEL UK AID IS POSSIBLE, AND GRADUAL INCREASE IN TRADE IS HOPED FOR IN LONDON. BUT UK IS UNLIKELY TO GET ANY FAVORS FROM HANOI, WHERE IT IS REGARDED AS FRIEND OF IMPERIALISM AND CAMP-FOLLOWER OF AMERICANS. BUT VIETNAMESE ARE REALISTIC AND, GIVEN BRITISH GOODWILL, NEW RELATIONSHIP BASED ON BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE COULD SLOWLY DEVELOP.

24. CSM'S HAYWARD IN MANILA WRITES OF US AND PHILS MANEUVERING TOWARD NEW RELATIONSHIP VIA RENEGOTIATION OF MBA AND TRADE AGREEMENTS. MANILA WILL ALSO PUSH STRONGLY FOR EXTRADITION TREATY. FROM COMMENTS OF AMERICAN OBSERVERS, SEES INDICATION THAT THE US IS NOT HAPPY ABOUT PROSPECT OF CHANGING PRESENT GROUND RULES OF PHLBASE DEALS, AND MAY APPLY ECON LEVERAGE, SUCH AS GRANTING AND WITHHOLDING

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 10 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE178615  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EA/P:STAFF:PP/EB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730963/abqceinh.tel  
**Line Count:** 353  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 7  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 06 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22-Aug-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEPTEMBER 7 EA PRESS SUMMARY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XC, US  
**To:** SAIGON INFO BANGKOK  
BUDAPEST  
CANBERRA  
JAKARTA  
MANILA  
MOSCOW  
PHNOM PENH



SEOUL  
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JEC PARIS  
PEKING  
USSAC NAKHON PHANOM  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005